

U.S. Serial No. 09/888,920
Amendment to Office Action dated May 26, 2004

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1-26 (Canceled)

27. (Previously Presented) A catheter tube hub having a lumen therethrough and a proximal and distal portion,

the proximal portion being configured as a connector;

the distal portion being configured as a strain relief; and

the lumen being configured to receive the catheter tube;

wherein the strain relief includes a generally helical wall defining a passage for receiving a catheter tube, the helical wall having a plurality of bends separated by spaces, wherein the spaces extend into the passage.

28. (Previously Presented) The hub of claim 27, wherein the average thickness of the proximal portion is thicker than the average thickness of the distal portion.

29. (Previously Presented) The hub of claim 27, wherein the thickness of the helical wall generally decreases distally.

30. (Withdrawn) The hub of claim 27, wherein a plurality of grooves extend into the passage wall generally transversely toward the passage.

31. (Withdrawn) The hub of claim 27, wherein the width of the grooves increases distally.

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32. (Withdrawn) The hub of claim 27, wherein the thickness between the grooves decreases distally.

33. (Withdrawn) The hub of claim 27, wherein the grooves extend through the wall into the passage.

34. (Withdrawn) The hub of claim 30, wherein the grooves are disposed in a plurality of sets, each set including two grooves, the two grooves within each set being disposed generally within the same plane to define a transverse hinge in the strain relief.

35. (Previously Presented) The hub of claim 29, wherein the helical wall extends from proximate the proximal end of the distal portion to proximate the distal end of the distal portion.

36. (Previously Presented) The hub of claim 27, wherein the connector is a threaded connector.

37. (Previously Presented) The hub of claim 27, wherein the hub includes transversely extending wings.

38. (Previously Presented) The hub of claim 27, wherein the hub is made of nylon.

39. (Previously Presented) The hub of claim 27, wherein the hub is made of polyether block amide polymer (PEBA).

40. (Withdrawn) The hub of claim 27, wherein a lumen extends at an angle from the proximal portion of the hub and connects with the lumen therein.